'N SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOGRAFIE

TOT DIE JAAR 1925

'N HERSIENING VAN EN
BYVOEGSEL TOT
SIDNEY MENDELSSOHN SE
SOUTH AFRICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY
(1910)

SAAMGESTEL IN DIE
SUID-AFRIKAANSE BIBLIOTEEK
KAAPSTAD
Met geldelike steun van die
Raad vir Geesteswetenskaplike Navorsing

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TO THE YEAR 1925

BEING A REVISION
AND CONTINUATION OF
SIDNEY MENDELSSOHN'S
SOUTH AFRICAN BIBLIOGRAPHY
(1910)

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Africa

INLEIDING

Agtergrond

Dit is ietwat verbasend dat daar vóór die tagtigerjare van die vorige eeu geen ernstige poging aangewend is om 'n Suid-Afrikaanse bibliografie op te stel nie. Die geskiedskrywer George McCall Theal het in die *Cape Quarterly Review* in April 1882 opgemerk dat daar 'n groot algemene behoefte aan 'n omvattende lys van boeke oor Suid-Afrika was, maar dat daar aansienlike probleme in dié verband bestaan het, wat dit nodig sou maak om die voorrade van al die groot biblioteke in Europa na te gaan. Op daardie tydstip het dit onuitvoerbaar voorgekom. Theal self het 'n onsistematiese bydrae tot 'n bibliografie in bogenoemde tydskrif en die twee daaropvolgende uitgawes gemaak onder die titel: 'Notes on books referring to South Africa'. Dertig jaar later publiseer hy eers sy heelwat vollediger *Catalogue of books and pamphlets relating to Africa, south of the Zambesi* (Kaapstad, 1912), 463 bladsye.

Die eerste Suid-Afrikaanse bibliografie—as ons W. H. I. Bleek (1858) en Th. Hahn (1884) se nog waardevolle katalogusse van sir George Grey se biblioteek buite rekening laat—was egter C. A. Fairbridge en John Noble se *Catalogue of books relating to South Africa* wat vir die komitee van die Colonial and Indian Exhibition in 1886 in Kaapstad gepubliseer is. Dit was gebaseer op die versamelings van die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek en mnr. Fairbridge—laasgenoemde toe nog 'n aparte versameling—maar het slegs 560 opgawes bevat.

Die volgende bibliografiese poging wat die moeite werd was, was H. C. Schunke-Hollway se 'Bibliography of books, pamphlets, maps, magazine articles, etc. relating to South Africa, with special reference to geography from 1503–1888', wat in die *Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society*, dl. 10, nr. 2, 1898, p. 131–294 verskyn het. Wat ongewoon is aan hierdie werk, is dat die 2,099 opgawes, soos die titel aandui, kronologies gerangskik is, d.w.s. volgens jaar van publikasie. Hierdie twee bibliografieë gee geen annotasies nie en net die blote minimum van bibliografiese besonderhede.

INTRODUCTION

Background

It is somewhat surprising that no serious attempt at South African bibliography was made before the eighties of the last century. The historian George McCall Theal writing in the *Cape Quarterly Review* in April 1882 remarked that it was generally agreed that a comprehensive list of books about South Africa was much needed, but that the difficulties involved were considerable, necessitating the combing of all the great libraries in Europe. At that time this seemed impracticable. Theal himself made an unsystematic contribution towards a bibliography in the above-mentioned journal and the two subsequent issues under the title of 'Notes on books referring to South Africa'. It was fully thirty years later that he published his much more complete *Catalogue of books and pamphlets relating to Africa, south of the Zambesi*, (Cape Town, 1912), 463 pages.

However, the first South African bibliography— disregarding W. H. I. Bleek's (1858) and Th. Hahn's (1884) still valuable catalogues of Sir George Grey's library—must be considered to be C. A. Fairbridge and John Noble's *Catalogue of books relating to South Africa* published for the Colonial and Indian Exhibition Committee in Cape Town in 1886. This was based on the collections of the South African Library and Mr. Fairbridge—the latter then a separate collection—but contained only 560 items.

The next worthwhile bibliographical effort was H. C. Schunke-Hollway's 'Bibliography of books, pamphlets, maps, magazine articles etc. relating to South Africa, with special reference to geography from 1503–1888', which was published in the *Transactions of the South African Philosophical Society*, vol. 10, no. 2, 1898, pp. 131–294. The unusual feature of this work was that the 2,099 items are, as suggested by the title, arranged annalistically, i.e. by year of publication. These two bibliographies give nothing in the way of annotation and the barest minimum of bibliographical detail.